

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The Office Action objected to the Abstract. A new Abstract is enclosed.

The allowance of claims 1-7 is gratefully acknowledged.

Claims 8-13 were rejected over the combination of Balakrishnan et al. in view of Hanado et al. Reconsideration is requested.

Each of the independent claims 8-10 recites a combination of several elements: 1) two cameras; 2) first and second light sources; 3) control means for controlling the light sources and obtaining an image signal; and 4) calculation means for extracting a pupil and corneal reflection from the obtained image signal.

It is noted that the “control means” and “calculation means” may be readable upon the arrangement illustrated in Figs. 2-4 and described for example at pages 14-17 and other portions of the specification. 35 USC 112, para. 6.

Additional features are recited in claims 9 and 10, respectively. Claims 11-13 depend respectively from claims 8-10.

The Examiner said that “Regarding claim 8, Balakrishnan et al discloses all of the claimed limitations except two cameras.” However, Balakrishnan only discloses an input device similar to a computer mouse, having a coil, an indicator, and buttons. The Examiner’s citation of Balakrishnan is irrelevant. The Examiner cites Figs. 2 and 3, but in these figures there is no description of any camera or any light source; much less any “control means” and “calculation means” having the features recited in claim 8. The Examiner refers to a “measurement device (200),” but 200 represents a mathematical coordinate system, not any device. The Examiner refers to extracting a pupil and corneal reflection from an image signal, column 4, lines 50-67; but this portion of Balakrishnan et al. refers to no pupil and no corneal reflection. Balakrishnan et al. should be withdrawn as a reference.

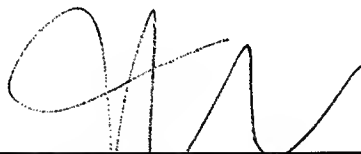
The Examiner also said that “Hanado et al discloses (refer to figure 3) two cameras (500, 500’).” However, in Fig. 3 of Hanado the symbols 500, 500’ indicate view points on a three dimensional coordinate system, not cameras. Col. 5, lines 17-24. Additionally, Hanado discloses not a method for detecting a sight-line but a method for displaying an object in a three- dimensional space. Accordingly, the Examiner’s citation of Hanado et al. is also irrelevant.

Further discussion of claims 9-13 is unnecessary. Since neither of the cited references has any relevant teaching, allowance of claims 8-13 is requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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JAF:lf

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'JAF', is written over a horizontal line.

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